

In re Patent Application S.N. 09/784,692
Response to January 24, 2005 Office Action

AMENDMENTS

Prior to further examination, please amend the application as follows:

In the Specification:

Please replace paragraph [0017] with the following substitute paragraph:

[0017] (amended) The computer, referred to as terminal 12, may be physically located at a merchant's place of business, or it may be located at a service provider. In either case, security is provided to the data in the data base 14 so that the information provided is only accessible to the user of the control terminal. Data may be entered via the control terminal 12 either at the terminal 12 or through the network 16. A prospective registrant logs in and is permitted to enter data regarding the preferences for goods, such as for example flowers, arrangements, gifts, and the like. Then, another registrant may log in and express the same or different preferences, which may also include a price range, religious preferences, or other distinctive features of the flowers or gifts that the registrant prefers. Other purchasing registrants may also log into the system and similarly order goods.

In the Claims:

1. (currently amended) A perishable goods gift registry system comprising:
 - a. a control computer in communication with a computer database, said database recording the preferences of a registrant as a prospective recipient of perishable goods orders; ~~non-volatile memory to record the preferences of a prospective recipient of goods;~~
 - b. remote terminals in communication with said control computer for recording in said database at least two perishable goods gift orders from purchasing registrants; ~~means to receive and record at least two orders from registrants; and~~

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- c. ~~a timing system whereby the at least two orders from registrants are delivered to the prospective recipient on at least two different days;~~

wherein the preferences designated by said prospective recipient or on behalf of said prospective recipient include ~~at least one start date and at least one end date, collectively defining at least one a preselected period of time interval, designated by the prospective recipient, during which the prospective recipient would prefer~~ prefers to have the at least two perishable goods orders delivered;

and wherein said control computer maintains a record for controlling delivery of said at least two perishable goods gift orders from said purchasing registrants to said prospective recipient on at least two different days in said preselected period of time.

2. (currently amended) The system of claim 1, wherein the orders from purchasing registrants are matched with preferences of the prospective recipient.

3. (currently amended) The system of claim 1, wherein orders from purchasing registrants are received over a global communications network.

4. (currently amended) The system of claim 1, wherein ~~the means to record said database for recording preferences and the means to receive and record orders~~ comprises a common data base in a structured query language.

5. (currently amended) A method of filling perishable goods gift orders by a gift registry system ~~for perishable goods~~ comprising the steps of:

- a. establishing in a computer a registry of prospective recipients;
- b. enrolling in the computer the preferences of the prospective recipients into the registry, wherein the preferences designated by the prospective recipients or on behalf of the prospective recipient include
 - (i) at least one perishable goods gift preference; and
 - (ii) a preselected period of time during which the prospective recipient prefers to have at least two perishable goods gift orders delivered;

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- c. receiving at least two perishable goods gift orders for perishable goods to be provided to one of the prospective recipients for which the at least two perishable goods gift orders were received;
- d. matching the at least two perishable goods gift orders with the preferences of one of said prospective recipients for which the at least two perishable goods gift orders were received;
- e. scheduling for the at least two perishable goods gift orders to be delivered to the recipient during said preselected period of time designated by said prospective recipient, wherein one of said at least two perishable goods gift orders is to be delivered on a first day in said preselected period of time and another of said at least two perishable goods gift order is to be delivered on a different day in said preselected period of time; and
- f. delivering said at least two perishable goods gift orders as scheduled by the system.

~~matching the at least two orders with the preferences of the one prospective recipients for which the at least two orders were received; and~~

- e. ~~filling the at least two orders over a predetermined period of time by delivering the perishable goods to the one prospective recipients recipient on at least two different days;~~

~~where the preferences include at least one start date and at least one end date, collectively defining at least one time interval, designated by the one prospective recipient, during which the one prospective recipient would prefer to have the at least two orders delivered.~~

6. (currently amended) The method of claim 5, wherein the preferences of the prospective recipients are specified by ~~the one~~ said respective prospective recipients.

7. (previously presented) The method of claim 5, wherein the preferences of the one prospective recipient are specified by someone other than the one prospective recipient.

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8. (original) The method of claim 5, wherein the perishable goods are flowers.
9. *cancelled.*
10. (previously presented) The method of claim 5, wherein the step of enrolling the preferences of the one prospective recipient into the registry is performed over a global communications network.
11. (original) The method of claim 5, wherein the step of receiving orders for perishable goods is performed over a global communications network.

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